

BDCP
Tim V's summary of federal coordination call
10 09 14

Ryan Wulff (NMFS): The DEIS is in “sustained limbo” as lead agencies review all the comments and decide which elements are included in the “refined scope” (for the Supplemental DEIS). Meetings of “The Principals” are scheduled as follows:

OCT 21st-22nd: Re: the scope of the supplement

OCT 27th-28th: Re: “policy issues”

Ryan doesn't expect the Supplement to be ready until late winter/early spring 2015. More immediately, the NOI to publish the Supplemental has still not been published in the Federal Register. Rules apparently differ b/w CEQA and NEPA on how to publish the NOI. Further, a NOA will be published in the FR once the Supplemental is released, but the lead agencies do not wish to hold any public meetings.

The Team whose name is an acronym of an acronym, BECT (BDCP Environmental Coordination Team) is gearing up to hold a ½ day or full-day meeting on water quality issues. {EPA needs to follow-up with the lead agencies on this and encourage Diane Riddle from SWRCB to participate.}

Tim (EPA) asked Ryan about his interpretation of Laura King Moon's (LKM-DWR) comments at the meetings chaired by Maria Rea on SEPT 9th and again on OCT 6th that we should “lower our expectations” about the content of the Supplement. Ryan gave what Tim regarded as a generous interpretation, saying that LKM meant that so much good technical work was underway and happening behind the scenes that a Supplement couldn't possibly capture all of it. Larry Rabin followed-up saying that even a “minimalist approach” will be enough to address EPA's concerns.

Ryan: Representatives from 5 agencies are moving-in to NMFS' offices at 650 Capitol Mall so they can work intensively together to move the BDCP process to the next stage.

OCT 14th: Re: Remand process, a quarterly progress report on the Collaborative Science and Adaptive Management Program (CSAMP) is due to Judge O'Neill from the Collaborative Adaptive Management Team (CAMT).

NOV 4th: Re: OCAP review. Mike Nepstad (Corps) said a meeting is being scheduled in Sacramento under the auspices of the Delta Stewardship Council (DSC) and Ryan elaborated that the focus will be on “reasonable and prudent alternatives” RPAs (for avoiding extinction of listed species). Check the DSC website for online viewing.

Drought: The Governor's Task Force has reconvened and stages bi-weekly calls every other Monday. NOAA forecasts that a weak El Niño will coalesce within the next 1-2 months without much promise for rain.